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Since 2007 Douglas Lute has served at the White House, first as the Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan, then as the Special Assistant to the President for Afghanistan and Pakistan, and most recently as the Deputy Assistant to the President for South Asia.

Prior to the White House, he served as the Director of Operations on the Joint Staff, overseeing U.S. military operations worldwide. In 2010, Doug retired from the U.S. Army after 35 years on active duty. He holds degrees from the United States Military Academy and Harvard University.